



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/820,472	04/07/2004	Stanislav I. Ionov	M-15363 US	7559
65678	7590	12/13/2007	EXAMINER	
MACPHERSON KWOK CHEN & HEID, LLP			CURS, NATHAN M	
2033 GATEWAY PLACE			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
SUITE 400			2613	
SAN JOSE, CA 95110			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			12/13/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Interview Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/820,472	IONOV ET AL.
	Examiner Nathan Curs	Art Unit 2613

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Nathan Curs. (3) \_\_\_\_\_.

(2) Greg Michelson. (4) \_\_\_\_\_.

Date of Interview: 30 November 2007.

Type: a) Telephonic b) Video Conference  
c) Personal [copy given to: 1) applicant 2) applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) Yes e) No.

If Yes, brief description: \_\_\_\_\_.

Claim(s) discussed: 1 and 23.

Identification of prior art discussed: Yariv.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) was reached. g) was not reached. h) N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner's signature, if required

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Mr. Curs and Mr. Michelson discussed Yariv's disclosure compared to the applicant's invention, and agreed with respect to a difference between Yariv and applicant's claimed invention, that Yariv is essentially outputting separate digital output signals after the demultiplexing, whereas the sole digital output signal of the applicant's Decision-making circuit is based on the different contributions of the demultiplexed and optical-to-electrical converted signals input to the Decision-making circuit. Mr. Curs and Mr. Michelson also discussed the 35 USC § 112-2nd paragraph essential matter issue, Mr. Curs explaining that essential structure of the claimed means (of e.g. claim 1, lines 7-9) includes a second signal (used for triggering the switching as described in the specification), whether the second signal is a separate input or derived from the first signal.